Members of Parliament has been received wherein the nationalisation of the Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited has been demanded; and

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Reserve Bank of India have issued a new set of detailed directions to non-banking financial companies conducting benefit/savings schemes which are not hit by the provisions of Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act, 1978. These directions have been issued to ensure the safety of the deposits of the investors. In view of this, the Government do not consider it necessary to nationalise M/s Peerless General Finance and Investment Company Limited, Calcutta.

Setting up of mint at Salboni

2974. SHRI RAMNARAYAN GOSWAMI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the construction of the proposed mint at Salboni in Midnapore District has started;

(b) what is the time schedule for such construction and also the probable date of completion;

(c) what is the financial allocation made in the financial year 1987-88; and

(d) what is the probable date of starting production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) There is no proposal to set up a mint at Salboni. It is, however, proposed to set up a new note Press at Salboni. Necessary pre-investment activities including land acquisition, soil testing, preparation of detailed feasibility report, etc. for setting up the new Press have been authorised. The detailed feasibility report is expected to be got ready by the end of this calendar year. It will take 48 months to commission the press after the investment decision is taken. A sum of Rs. 25.00 lakhs has been allocated for the above purposes in the financial yeor 1987-88.

Housing loans of AIR

2975. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the housing loans for the staff of All India Radio are exhausted in Delhi and its surrounding States and it does not reach down to the far-flung States, including Goa; and

(b) whether in view of this Government contemplate action to see that this fund is distributed to various State Headquarters on percentage basis, so that maximum persons over a larger area get benefit?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) No, Sir. Sufficient funds are available at present with AIR. There is no application for House Building Advance, which is complete in all respects, pending in AIR.

(b) Does not arise.

Full-fledged Customs Collectorate etc. in Goa

2976. SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government contemplate to have a full-fledged customs collectorate and office of Commisioner of Income Tax in Goa after it attained statehood, which are at present based at Bombay and Bangalore respectively; and